



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

980 Ninth Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724

April 22, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

File #: 1040.2

Document #: S42196

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, Room 3500
For Rambabu Bavirisetty

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: Kern COG FTIP Amendment No. 3

We have completed our review of the Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) Amendment No. 3 to its 2002/2003 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) submitted by your letter dated March 3, 2003. This amendment was adopted by KCOG on January 16, 2003.

Project KER000502 included with this amendment is shown as 'Cost/Scope/Sch. Change (Cost Incr).' This description is accurate when moving funding within years of the current FTIP. We remind the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and KCOG that projects moved from years prior to the beginning of the current FTIP triennial element into the current triennial element are new projects. Project descriptions should appropriately reflect new projects. Pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216 (a)(2), projects outside of the triennial element, such as KER 970502, are considered for informational purposes only.

We accept this KCOG amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that the amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and Section 5303 of the Federal Transit Act (49 USC 53). The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed. Therefore, we find this FTIP to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan.

This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of KCOG's Amendment No. 3 into California's 2002/2003 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Furthermore, this approval is made with the understanding that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding approval on individual projects is subject to the grantees meeting all necessary FTA administrative requirements.

Sincerely,

/s/ F. James Kenna

For

Leslie T. Rogers

Regional Administrator

Federal Transit Administration

/s/ K. Sue Kiser

For

Gary N. Hamby

Division Administrator

Federal Highway Administration

c:
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